



Division of Public Health Services

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FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

DATE: January 18, 2006

TO: Laboratory Director and QA Manager

FROM: Steven D. Baker, Office Chief
Laboratory Services
State Laboratory Services

Subject: Information Update #88

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NOTE: If any of the pages are missing, please call 1-800-952-0374, (602) 364-0734 or (602) 364-0733.

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*THIS MESSAGE AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT UPON REQUEST, BY CONTACTING:
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Leadership for a Healthy Arizona



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Information Update

January 18, 2006
Update #88

1. The Office of Laboratory Licensure, Certification & Training has a new name; the Office is now called "Office of Laboratory Services", effective from December 2005.
2. Clarification to an analytical batch referenced in methods: Every field sample analysis, including both diluted and pretreated field samples, but excluding any LFM or duplicate field sample analysis which qualify as QC samples, must be applied to the maximum of field samples permitted in an analysis batch.

Thus, CCV's (IPCs) must be analyzed at the frequency as required by the method, counting all samples within the analytical batch as defined above.

3. An Update on electronic signatures: Arizona's Secretary of State has not made a final decision on how and what security measures are needed for receiving and sending documents with electronic signatures. ADHS is currently working with ADEQ's SDWIS (State Drinking Water Information System) Coordinator, Laurie Gehlsen to get laboratories on board with electronic reporting by the end of 2006. EPA has approved electronic reporting; the details are available @ <http://www.epa.gov/cdx/cromerrr/>
4. Our Office had a communication with the staff of EPA's MICE line regarding the multi-point calibration for surrogates for 8000 series methods. Their response was as follows:

"We do acknowledge that historically the surrogates have been included in the multi-point initial calibration at variable concentrations in order to evaluate the linear response as with any target analyte. However, with improvements in instrumentation and more reliance on the autosampler, consideration was given to allowing the autosampler to spike the initial calibration standards with surrogates in the same manner as the samples are spiked. This option makes sense because the surrogate standards in the initial calibration can be averaged to develop a response factor and an effective one point calibration with the sole purpose to measure the surrogate recovery using the same concentration for each sample analysis. In this case the surrogate linear response is less important, since multiple concentrations of surrogates are not being measured. Instead, the surrogate concentration remains constant throughout and the recovery of this known concentration can easily be attained without demonstrating if the response is linear."

Based on the above recommendation, ADHS will now accept the calibration curve consisting of a minimum five calibration standards with the surrogate spiked at the same concentration level or multi-level for 8000 series methods and the labs must specify the protocol selected in their SOPs.

5. Lower MCL for arsenic:

The current 40CFR 141.23 k (1) footnote 15 states that (obtained from the eCFR):

"Starting January 23, 2006, analytical methods using the ICP-AES technology, may not be used because the detection limits for these methods are 0.008 mg/L or higher. This restriction means that the two ICP-AES methods (EPA Method 200.7 and SM 3120 B) approved for use for the MCL of 0.05 mg/L may not be used for compliance determinations for the revised MCL of 0.010 mg/L. However, prior to January 23, 2006, systems may have compliance samples analyzed with these less sensitive methods."

The Office of Laboratory Services will not be removing these methods from its list of approved drinking water methods as they may be used for non-safe drinking water programs.

6. According to Standard Methods 1010C.1, duplicates are defined as being two samples taken at the same time and one location. SM 9020B.4.a.4 states to perform duplicates on 5% of all samples or on at least one sample per test run for general microbiology quality control.
7. The following items have been condensed from the minutes from EPA's 12/14/2005 QA call to the Regions. This addresses useful information regarding changes to EPA program contacts in Cincinnati.

Cincinnati contacts:

- Jennifer Best (513-569-7012) is the Micro Lead and is responsible for regulatory and technical questions for micro
- Michella Karapondo (513-569-7141) is the contact for Radiochemistry and for regulatory questions on chemistry
- Judy Brisbin (513-569-7883) is responsible for methods questions for chemistry.

ATP Website Status:

The site will be accessible from <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/methods/methods.html> when completed and approved. There will also be a link to the Office of Science and Technology (OST) webpage with a FAQ. OST has intentions of compiling a comparable listing for their office. Drinking water ATP listing is anticipated to be available in late January or early February.

Since Herb is retiring on January 3, 2006, Steve Wendelken, Ph.D., TSC, (ph: 513-569-7491) will be the drinking water coordinator for the ATP program. He will be responsible for chemistry methods. James Sinclair, Ph.D. (513-569-7970) will continue to be responsible for the micro ATPs for drinking water.

The OW representative to Standards Methods will be Steve Wendelken and Judy Brisbin, Ph.D., will be the EPA representative for NEMI.

PT Providers/NIST Oversight

There are currently 10 PTPs accredited by NIST with the majority accredited thru 9/30/2006. The website is updated quarterly and does not reflect the current accreditation period for some of the PTPs.

8. **Disinfectant Byproduct final rule 1/4/2006**

EPA has promulgated final rule on the Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR), contains maximum contaminant level goals for chloroform, monochloroacetic acid and trichloroacetic acid; National Primary Drinking Water Regulations, which consist of maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) and monitoring, reporting, and public notification requirements for total trihalomethanes (TTHM) and haloacetic acids (HAA5); and revisions to the reduced monitoring requirements for bromate. This document also specifies the best available technologies for the final MCLs. EPA is also approving additional analytical methods for the determination of disinfectants and DBPs in drinking water. For additional details go to <http://epa.gov/EPA-WATER/2006/January/Day-04/> and click on the document.

9. Our Office is considering including the laboratory's e-mail address also on the document that consists of a compiled list of licensed laboratories, which is made available to the general public when requested. Please send your response to the following questions by fax (602) 364-0759 or by email wangsnk@azdhs.gov by February 10, 2006. Thank you for your assistance.

A. Would you be willing to have the e-mail listed?

B. Would you prefer to have the listing of the e-mail to be an option that can be selected when filling out the application?

C. Would you prefer to use another e-mail, which is more public, rather than the one listed on the application form?

D. Additional Comments:

10. Our Office is currently looking into implementing e-Licensing and to accept payments by credit card. We would like to know if you are interested. Please respond by fax (602) 364-0759 or email wangsnk@azdhs.gov by February 10, 2006. Thank you for your assistance.
11. Our Office in conjunction with ADEQ is contemplating hosting one-day training on DMRQA. The speakers would be from Utility Support Group and Environmental Resource Associates. The content tentatively includes 1) An Overview of DMR, 2) An Overview of Analytical Tests Required by DMR, and 3) DMR-QA Requirements. The estimated fee per person would be \$149 and approximately 6 PDHs may be offered by ADEQ. If you have any suggestions for the training, please submit your thoughts to Joe Harmon. Since a minimum number of individuals would be needed in order to have the training (at the specified cost), we would like to request that anyone interested please contact Joe Harmon at harmonj@azdhs.gov or (602) 364-0673 by February 3, 2006.
12. The Training program is offering the following:
- A. Shipping and Handling of Infectious Materials workshops:

January 18th 2006 in Phoenix

February 2006 in Tucson
April 2006 and May 2006 in Phoenix
June 2006 in Flagstaff

- B. A Ground Water/Surface Water Sampling Workshop is tentatively planned for March 28-30, 2006.

For more information about these classes or questions concerning additional training, please contact Joe Harmon at harmonj@azdhs.gov or (602) 364-0673.

13. The Training program has two web casts that they are hosting at the State Health Lab, 250 N. 17th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ. The web casts are being recorded and if technically possible, copies will be made available for those interested. If you would like to attend either web cast, please contact Joe Harmon at harmonj@azdhs.gov or (602) 364-0673 as soon as possible.
- A. Overview of Two Recently Promulgated Rules: Stage 2 Disinfectants & Disinfection By Products Rule (Stage 2 DBPR) and Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2ESWTR).
Date and Time: Tue, 01/17/06 at 1:00 PM EST (11:00 AM MST)
Duration: 4 hours
- B. Implementing the Stage 2 DBPR & LT2ESWTR Compliance and Assistance Tools for Systems
Date and Time: Thu, 01/26/06 at 1:00 PM EST (11:00 AM MST)
Duration: 3 hours
14. Please contact Prabha Acharya @ (602) 364-0734 or acharyp@azdhs.gov for any technical or method related questions. The earlier Information Updates can be accessed @ <http://www.azdhs.gov/lab/license/tech/infoup.htm>